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INGEBRIGT HAGEN

N. WILLE, INGBRIGT HAGEN; DET KONGELIGE NORSKE VIDENSKABERS SELSKABS SKRIFTER, 1917; PUBLISHED IN TRONDHJEM, 1918.

Three Norwegian bryologists of international reputation have died in three recent successive years: N. Bryhn in 1916, I. Hagen, June 8, 1917, and B. Kaalaas in 1918. The above account of the life and works of Hagen has just come to my notice through the kindness of Mr. E. B. Chamberlain. Hagen was born in Trondhjem in 1852, the son of a shoemaker. His unusual energy and mental ability made an academic career inevitable and he was from 1874-9 assistant of Professor Worm Müller at the University in Christiania, collaborating with him in the publication of a number of investigations in the field of physiological chemistry. He studied further in Sweden and Germany. In 1883 he began practice as a physician, changing his residence a number of times, until in 1899 he established himself at Opdal in the Dovrefjeld region, one of the most remarkable bryological areas known. Even earlier he had begun to transfer a great deal of his energy from medical practice to bryology and finally in 1906, an arrangement was made with the Nansen Foundation assuring him an annuity for the rest of his life and another with Det Kongelige Norske Videnskabers Selskab at Trondhjem assuring him a room for his bryological work and a small additional yearly allowance. He then settled in Trondhjem to devote the remainder of his life to the study of the Norwegian mosses. This work took the form of "Forarbejder til en Norsk Lövmosflora," which from 1908 till 1915 had covered twenty families from various parts of the moss-system. It is his principal monument, but he had besides, especially in "*Musci Norvegiae Borealis*," 1899-1904, and in a variety of lesser contributions, some of which have appeared in *THE BRYOLOGIST*, made an enduring record of persistent and careful research.

If I may add to this brief abstract of the contents of Professor Wille's memoir a word of personal recollection: I was privileged to spend a day in Trondhjem in the summer of 1912, when I especially wished to discuss the northern Bryums with Dr. Hagen, who undoubtedly knew them better than any other living bryologist and correspondingly better than anyone of the previous generation. He was very generous with assistance and quite confirmed personally the impression made through his work of being an open and eager seeker of the truth without a touch of conceit of personal opinion. Some of the things he said illustrate this very well. In connection with *Bryum*, in which he had created many species, he said that if he were to revise the genus, he would treat it in a very different way, and implied that he would do it with a great reduction of species. At the same time he showed me a rather high pile of very good *Bryum* material with full new species descriptions carefully written out, to be published as he said after his death.

Another puzzling statement which I recall was that a descriptive bryologist should not concern himself with phylogenetic speculation. Hagen, as a matter of fact, in his *Forarbejder* showed a great deal of original thought upon phylogenetic relationships and was one of the few recent bryologists not dis-

posed to accept Die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien as the last word in inspired revelation. His activity here as elsewhere was mostly in an analytic rather than synthetic direction.

He was unfavorably disposed toward treating bryological history as a scrap of paper, particularly the part lying between Linné and Hedwig and expressed a lively interest for example in the work of Necker.

With reference to the exotic mosses he confided to me that he had never felt especially attracted to their study, except as he had sometimes contemplated monographing the genus *Fissidens*.

Of the little group of Norwegian bryologists only Jørgensen now remains, and he had done relatively less than the others, confined his work mostly to hepatics and has not been very active in recent years. Kaalaas sometimes expressed the fear that no one of the younger generation might feel called to continue the work.

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A. LE ROY ANDREWS

MARY FARNHAM MILLER

The Sullivant Moss Society has lost one of its earliest members in the death in Washington, D. C., on June 2, 1920, of Miss Mary F. Miller. It was a great shock, as the last letters written in January were so hopeful of complete recovery that I never thought of such a possibility as death. Her life though short (she was born January 26, 1872) was full of activity. She thoroughly loved life, and its friendships. Miss Miller joined the Sullivant Moss Society the year after it was organized, and our acquaintance began at once in 1900. In January, 1904, Miss Miller was elected Secretary and served two years; she also took over charge of the Moss Herbarium. In December of that year our Society held a meeting in Philadelphia, in connection with the A. A. A. S., and many of us made our first personal acquaintance with Miss Miller at that time. In March, 1908, having become interested in the lichens, she was placed in charge of the Lichen Department, doing most careful work under the inspiration and guidance of Mrs. Carolyn W. Harris, and for four years carried on the large correspondence and determinations of this department.

For some years prior to 1918, Miss Miller had worked on the mosses and lichens at the National Museum, arranging the material in its Herbarium, but her health began to fail and all scientific work had to be abandoned, though in her own mind she always looked forward to regained health and to the studies she so much loved. We sincerely mourn for this dear friend who made such a brave fight for life, and whose bright friendliness endeared her to all who knew her either personally or through correspondence.

The Society extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Miss Miller and assures them of its appreciation of all her years of faithful work and continued interest in its welfare.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

ANNIE MORRILL SMITH